

# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
 Kouichi ITOIGAWA et al  
 Serial No. Not Yet Assigned  
 Filed: September 26, 2003  
 For: BUCKLE DEVICE

)  
 ) Attn: Applications Branch  
 ) Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned  
 )  
 )  
 ) Date: September 26, 2003

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of the documents cited on the PTO-1449 are enclosed and described in the specification of the above-captioned patent application. Also Japanese Patent Publication No.: 2001-157603 A corresponds to US Patent Nos. 6,381,815 B1, 5,742,986 and 5,944,135.

It is requested that the accompanying PTO-1449 be considered and made of record in the above-identified application. To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees connected with this filing which may be required now, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2380.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO			<b>Complete if Known</b>		
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (use as many sheets as necessary)			Application Number	Not Yet Assigned	
			Filing Date	September 26, 2003	
			First Named Inventor	Kouichi ITOIGAWA et al	
			Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned	
			Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned	
Sheet		of		Attorney Docket Number	740165-363

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials <sup>*</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US-6,381,815 B1	05/07/2002	Yamaguchi et al	
		US-5,742,986	04/28/1998	Corrion et al	
		US-5,944,135	08/31/1999	Blackburn et al	
		US-			
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		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials <sup>*</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		JP 2001-260817 A	09/26/2001	Y. Oda		W/Abstract
		JP 2002-157603 A	06/12/2001	T. Asako et al		W/Abstract

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials <sup>*</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.